

406 used for the present experiment. A signal inputted from an input terminal **421** is inputted to a Schmitt trigger inverter **423** formed by a CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor). Specifically, the Schmitt trigger inverter **423** formed by the CMOS is the MC14584B manufactured by MOTOROLA Inc. A resistor **422** has a high resistance element that supplies a bias voltage to the input terminal **421**. When there is no inducing operation at the input terminal **421**, the resistor **422** makes a voltage of the input terminal **421** to a zero level. Further, the resistor **422** has high resistance in order to efficiently use an inducing voltage, whose resistance value is defined as substantially 2 M Ω . A variable resistor **424** and a resistor **425** are used for adjustment and setting of a bias level. By varying the variable resistor **424**, the input level of Schmitt trigger inverter **423** can be close to a threshold level of the CMOS. This operation can adjust inducing detection sensitivity, too. A constant voltage source **426** is set to be 5 V. The output signal of Schmitt trigger inverter **423** is outputted to an output terminal **427**.

[0054] Following will be explained about the operation. A signal inputted to the input terminal **421** is converted into a rectangular wave to be amplified by the Schmitt trigger inverter **423**. Further, the amplified signal is inverted and is outputted to an output terminal **427** by the Schmitt trigger inverter **423**.

[0055] As a result of the above experiment, a logic level signal whose shape is a rectangular wave, outputted from the signal generator **404** can be obtained from the signal output terminal **407** of FIG. 1. Further, the electrode **402** is not limited to the above-mentioned size. Namely, even when the electrode **402** is downsized, a transmitting signal can be detected.

[0056] Through such above-mentioned construction, when the user touches the electrode **402** with the finger or closely approach the electrode **402**, a signal to be transmitted by way of the human body **1** can be detected that is stable over in a wide frequency area. Further, by properly setting the signal level or the detection level of the amplifier **406**, the transmission signal can be detected as long as the human body **1** touches it.

[0057] FIG. 3 shows an example of a specific construction of an information transmitting system to which the present invention is applied. Like FIG. 1, the electrode **402** is mounted to the sitting surface of the chair **401** and covered with the cover **403**. The signal generator **404** supplies an outputted signal to the electrode **402**. An X signal detecting unit **31** and a Y signal detecting unit **32** detect an inducing voltage generated by an inputting device **2**. The X signal detecting unit **31** outputs a detection result to an X signal output terminal **46**. The Y signal detecting unit **32** detects a detection result to a Y signal output terminal **47**.

[0058] Following will be explained about the operation. When a user sits on the chair **401** covered with the cover **403**, a signal generated at a predetermined frequency by the signal generator **404** is transmitted to the human body **1** by way of the electrode **402**. When the human body **1** touches the input device **2** with the finger or approaches the device **2**, an inducing voltage is generated in the input device **2** by a transmission signal transmitted by way of the human body **1**. The X signal detecting unit **31** and the Y signal detecting unit **32** detect the inducing voltage generated in the input

device **2**. Each of the inducing voltages detected by the X signal detecting unit **31** and the Y signal detecting unit **32** is outputted from the X signal output terminal **46** and the Y signal output terminal **47**.

[0059] FIG. 4 shows an example of construction of the input device **2**, the X signal detecting unit **31**, and the Y signal detecting unit **32**. The input device **2** has linear electrodes **21Xi** and **21Yi** ($i=1,2,3,4, \dots$) that are mutually insulated. In this example, the number of the linear electrodes **21Xi** and **21Yi** is arranged by four by in each of the X direction and the Y direction. Further, the X electrode detecting unit **31** and the Y electrode detecting unit **32** construct an induced voltage detecting unit **30** that includes the X electrode detecting unit **31** that detects an inducing voltage of the linear electrodes **21Xi** array extended in the X direction and the Y electrode detecting unit **32** that detects an inducing voltage of the linear electrodes **21Yi** array extended in the Y direction.

[0060] Here, the number of the linear electrodes **21Xi** and **21Yi** are respectively four in each of the X direction and the Y direction. It is not limited to four, and the number of the linear electrodes **21Xi** and **21Yi** depends on a minute extent of a detection coordinate dimensioning.

[0061] FIG. 5 is a sectional view showing an example of construction of section in the X direction on the linear electrodes **21X1** of the input device **2**. The linear electrodes **21Y** to **21Y3** are arranged in the Y direction on a substrate **61**. The linear electrodes **21Y1** to **21Y3** are covered with insulators **62Y1** to **62Y3** and are insulated against the linear electrode **21X1** arranged in the X direction. An insulator **63** is provided for protecting all the portions that may be omitted depending on the case. Further, though the surface is formed in a wave-shaped manner as shown, the surface may be formed in a flat-shaped manner.

[0062] FIG. 6 is an enlarged view of the detecting unit that detects an inducing voltage of one linear electrode **21X1** in the induced voltage detecting unit **30**. The signal induced to the linear electrode **21X1** (refer to FIG. 4) of the input device **2** is supplied to an inverter buffer **42X1** by way of an input terminal **41X1**. Further, an input of the inverter buffer **42X1** is e.g. grounded by way of a resistor **43X1** having high resistance such as a resistor having the value of 3.3 M Ω . One end of an LED (light emitting diode) **44X1** is connected to the output of the inverter buffer **42X1**. The other end thereof is connected to a reference voltage source **46** by way of a resistor **45X1**. For example, a "14049" that is a standard gate of a CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor) is available as the inverter buffer **42X1**.

[0063] It is noted that because the construction of the detecting unit that detects inducing voltages of the linear electrodes **21X2** to **21X4** and **21Y1** to **21Y4** of the input device **2** is substantially as same as that of the detecting unit that detects an inducing voltage of the linear electrode **21X1** shown in FIG. 6.

[0064] FIGS. 7A and 7B show a view showing waveforms of the operation of the inverter buffer **42X1**. In FIG. 7A, a signal IV denotes an input signal of the inverter buffer **42X1** and a voltage VT denotes a threshold voltage of the inverter buffer **42X1**. In FIG. 7B, a signal Vout denotes an output signal of the inverter buffer **42X1**. A voltage VH denotes a high level portion of the output signal Vout. A voltage VL denotes a low level portion of the output signal Vout.